Listing of Claims

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the subject application:

1. (currently amended) A method ~~of~~ for generating <u>a DICOM compatible file which comprises</u> medical information including quantitative and image data, said method comprising the steps of:

 performing an image acquisition of at least a portion of a patient to be examined;

 generating image data based on the performed acquisition;

 generating quantitative data based on the performed acquisition; and

 constructing a ~~DICOM compatible~~ <u>composite</u> file, wherein the image data is provided in an image data field of the ~~DICOM compatible~~ <u>composite</u> file and the quantitative data is provided in a field of the ~~DICOM compatible~~ <u>composite</u> file other than the image data field.

2. (original) A method as recited in claim 1, wherein the acquisition is performed and the image data generated using a bone densitometer.

3. (original) A method as recited in claim 1, wherein the quantitative data comprises bone mineral density (BMD) data or quantitative morphometry.

4. (original) A method as recited in claim 2, wherein the image data comprises an image of a patient's anatomy which was acquired.

5. (original) A method as recited in claim 1, wherein the quantitative data comprises quantitative report data.

6. (original) A method as recited in claim 5, wherein the quantitative report data comprises BMD data, T scores and Z scores.

7. (previously presented) A method as recited in claim 1, wherein the quantitative data provided in an image comments field and is in a form of at least one of HTML, XML and Java Script files.

8. (previously presented) A method as recited in claim 7, wherein the quantitative data in the image comments field contains analysis results in computer readable form.

9. (original) A method as recited in claim 8, wherein the computer readable form in JavaScript.

10. (previously presented) A method as recited in claim 8, wherein the computer readable form is HTML.

11. (previously presented) A method as recited in claim 1, further comprising steps of:

communicating the DICOM compatible file across a network;

receiving the DICOM compatible file at a DICOM compliant station;

extracting the quantitative data from the field of the DICOM compatible file other

than the image data field; and

generating a report using the extracted quantitative data.

12. (previously presented) A method as recited in claim 11, wherein the extracting

step is performed using a software control.

13. (original) A method as recited in claim 1, wherein the quantitative data includes

raw data used to generate a report.

14. (original) A method as recited in claim 1, wherein the other field of the DICOM

file is an Image Comments field.

15. (previously presented) A method as recited in claim 7, wherein data in the Image

Comments Field contains parameters which control a process of report generation allowing

for customization of a report.

16. (original) A method as recited in claim 5, wherein the quantitative report data

comprises quantitative morphometry data.

17. (original) A method as recited in claim 8, wherein the computer readable form is

XML.

18. (previously presented) A method of generating a DICOM file including

embedded quantitative data, said method comprising:

generating a report image file from quantitative data;

embedding the report image file as an image file portion of the DICOM file; and

embedding the quantitative data, used to create the report image file, in a portion of

the DICOM file other than the image file portion.

19. (original) A method as recited in claim 18, wherein the report image file

comprises a bitmap image file.

20. (original) A method as recited in claim 18, wherein the quantitative data used to

create the report image file comprises raw data.

21. (original) A method as recited in claim 18, wherein the quantitative data used to

create the report image file comprises bone mineral density (BMD) data.

22. (previously presented) A method as recited in claim 18, wherein the quantitative

data is embedded in an Image Comments field of the DICOM file.

23. (previously presented) A computer executable software code stored on a

computer readable medium, the code for creating a DICOM compliant file, said code

comprising:

code for creating a report, including quantitative data, from acquisition data generated

by at least one of an image capture device and another form of data entry;

      code for creating a bitmap image file representing the created report;

      code for embedding the bitmap image file in an image field of a DICOM compliant

file; and

      code for embedding the quantitative data in a field of the DICOM compliant file other

than the image field.

24. (original) A computer executable software code as recited in claim 23, wherein

the quantitative data comprises raw data used to create the report.

25. (original) A computer executable software code as recited in claim 23, wherein

the quantitative data comprises bone mineral density (BMD) data.

26. (original) A computer executable software code as recited in claim 23, wherein

the other form of data entry includes manual entry.

27. (original) A computer executable software code as recited in claim 23, wherein

the other field comprises an Image Comments field of the DICOM file.